September 1, 1961

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE **SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS**

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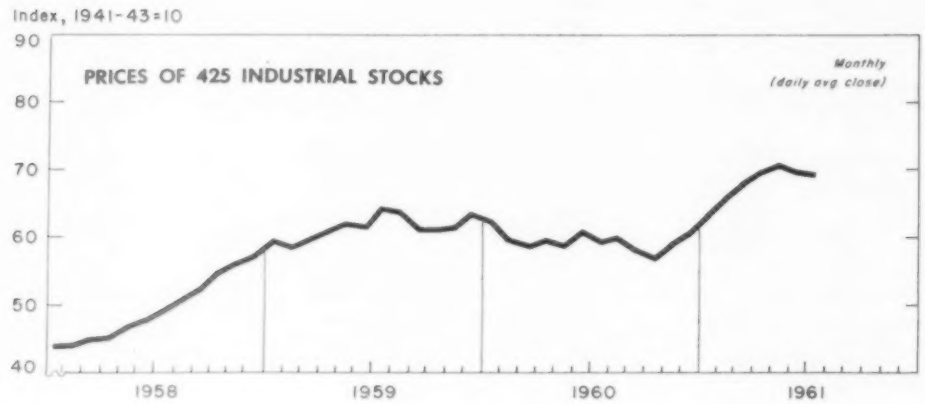
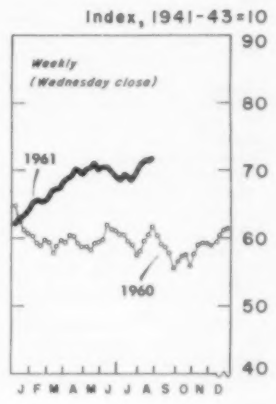
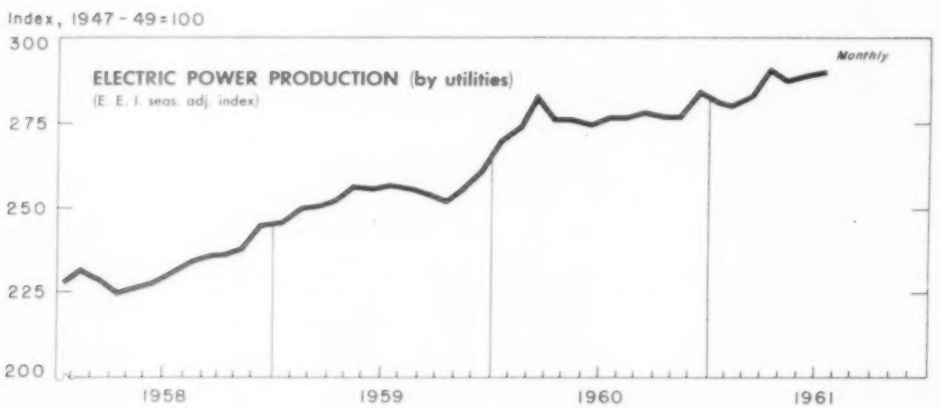
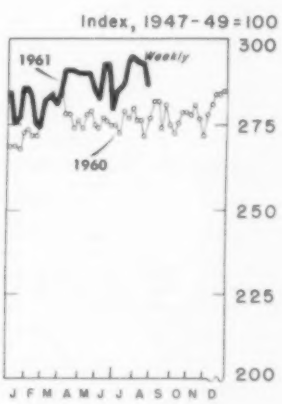
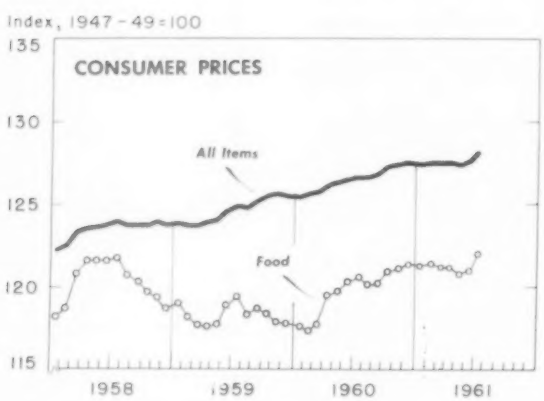
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

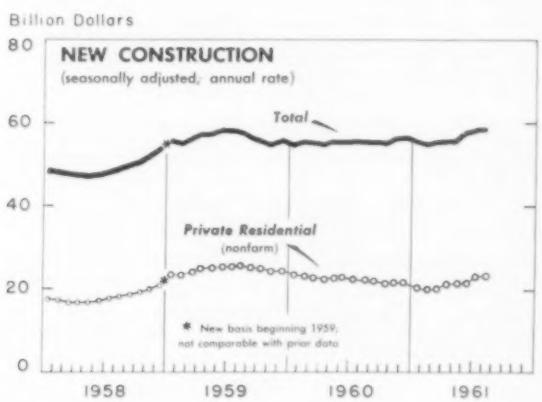












WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1960		1961			
	August 20	August 27	August 5	August 12	August 19	August 26
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities....1947-49=100..	.....	*119.2	.....	118.8	119.0	118.9
Farm products....do....	.....	*86.6	.....	87.5	88.2	88.2
Foods, processed....do....	.....	*107.8	.....	107.7	108.3	108.1
All other....do....	.....	*128.2	.....	127.5	127.4	127.4
22 commodities 2/....do....	85.4	85.6	84.7	84.8	85.3	85.0
Department store sales....do....	139	144	132	131	142	.....
Insured unemployment, total 3/....thous..	1,821	1,809	2,531	2,450	.....	.....
State programs (50 States and, in 1961, Puerto Rico)..do....	1,679	1,666	1,884	1,818	.....	.....
Failures, Indust. and commercial (Dun & Bradstreet)...number..	279	315	406	343	366	352
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 4/....mil. of dol..	32,184	32,087	32,449	32,564	32,664	32,594
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 4/.....do....	28,469	28,245	28,508	28,777	28,676	28,681
Member bank reserve balances 4/....do....	18,564	18,404	19,286	19,208	19,197	19,220
Excess reserves, estimated 4/....do....	581	466	476	558	604	622
Reporting member banks (of F.R. System) in leading cities:5/						
Demand deposits, adjusted....mil. of dol..	.....	.....	62,381	61,998	61,017	.....
Savings deposits....do....	.....	.....	28,862	28,955	28,985	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total....do....	106,319	105,745	114,923	114,041	114,555	.....
U. S. Government obligations....do....	27,534	27,514	33,790	33,327	33,328	.....
Commercial and industrial loans (gross)....do....	31,323	31,107	31,499	31,359	31,592	.....
Real estate loans (gross)....do....	12,837	12,879	12,956	12,973	13,002	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 4/.....percent..	4.60	4.57	4.72	4.73	4.74	4.74
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 5/...1941-43=10..	56.84	58.07	66.94	67.74	67.73	67.98
Industrials, 425 stocks....do....	60.30	61.67	70.89	71.69	71.66	71.82
Production:						
Bituminous coal 4/....thous. of short tons..	1,351	1,307	1,321	1,370	1,367	.....
Electric power, by utilities....mil. of kw.-hr..	14,866	15,018	16,137	16,080	15,665	.....
Motor vehicles (cars, trucks, coaches)....number..	63,153	53,839	45,589	28,162	29,811	83,002
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 4/....thous. of bbl..	6,842	6,846	7,024	7,045	7,075	.....
Steel....thous. of short tons..	1,558	1,547	1,850	1,910	1,944	2,020
Index of production....1957-59=100..	83.6	83.0	99.3	102.5	104.4	108.4
Freight carloadings, total....thous. of cars..	596	595	589	591	595	.....
Miscellaneous....do....	290	290	288	291	294	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ In addition to State programs, includes the following: Railroad; UCFE (Federal employees); UCX (ex-servicemen); and, effective with week of April 15, 1961, TEC (temporary extended compensation). Also effective with week of April 15, 1961, includes persons under extended duration provisions. 4/ Daily average. 5/ Wednesday data; figures for member banks in leading cities are on revised basis. * Monthly index for August 1960.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1960		1961			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
NEW BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS (DUN & BRADSTREET, INC.)...number..	16,710	r14,709	14,815	16,371	r16,418	14,382
COMMODITY PRICES						
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, ALL ITEMS....1947-49=100..	126.5	126.6	127.5	127.4	127.6	*128.1
Special group indexes:						
All items less food....do....	129.7	129.9	130.8	131.0	131.2	131.4
All items less shelter....do....	124.0	124.2	125.0	124.9	125.2	125.7
All commodities....do....	117.6	117.7	117.9	117.7	118.0	118.7
Nondurables....do....	119.8	120.0	120.4	120.2	120.4	121.1
Durables....do....	111.5	111.1	110.7	110.8	111.2	111.5
Services....do....	149.7	150.0	152.3	152.5	152.7	152.8
Apparel....do....	108.9	109.1	109.5	109.6	109.6	109.9
Food....do....	120.3	120.6	121.2	120.7	120.9	122.0
Dairy products....do....	115.0	115.8	117.9	117.5	117.3	118.0
Fruits and vegetables....do....	136.1	134.4	131.4	132.2	135.4	138.2
Meats, poultry, and fish....do....	110.3	110.8	110.5	108.7	107.4	107.8
Housing....do....	131.3	131.3	132.3	132.2	132.4	132.4
Gas and electricity....do....	124.7	124.8	125.8	126.2	126.3	125.6
Housefurnishings....do....	104.3	104.1	103.8	103.5	103.9	103.6
Rent....do....	141.6	141.8	143.3	143.4	143.5	143.6
Medical care....do....	156.1	156.4	159.9	160.4	160.9	161.2
Personal care....do....	133.2	133.4	133.8	133.8	133.9	134.3
Reading and recreation....do....	121.1	121.6	124.1	123.9	123.5	124.1
Transportation....do....	145.8	145.9	145.8	146.6	147.7	148.3
Private....do....	134.1	134.2	133.4	134.2	135.3	135.9
Public....do....	198.3	198.9	206.5	206.5	207.3	208.5
Other goods and services....do....	132.0	132.2	132.6	133.1	133.1	133.6
PURCHASING POWER OF THE DOLLAR AS MEASURED BY--						
Consumer prices....1947-49=100..	79.1	79.0	78.4	78.5	78.4	**78.1

r/ Revised. * Index based on 1935-39=100 is 214.2. ** Index based on 1935-39=100 is 46.7.
CORRECTION for August 1961 SURVEY, p. S-36: Data for pulpwood and wastepaper, wood pulp, and paper and products are for the month previous to the one indicated at top of page.
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ITEM	1960		1961			
	July	August	May	June	July	August
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
NEW CONSTRUCTION PUT IN PLACE (UNADJ.), TOTAL...mil. of dol..	5,168	5,205	4,903	r5,351	r5,389	5,433
Private, total...do....	3,587	3,556	3,492	r3,740	r3,746	3,727
Residential (nonfarm)...do....	2,093	2,031	2,023	r2,188	r2,137	2,120
New housing units...do....	1,526	1,524	1,256	r1,407	r1,524	1,584
Additions and alterations...do....	487	426	669	r682	r513	433
Nonresidential buildings, total...do....	872	884	842	r900	r932	937
Industrial...do....	230	237	226	219	216	213
Commercial...do....	363	360	363	401	419	416
Farm construction...do....	123	126	136	r156	r164	198
Public utility...do....	473	489	467	473	r491	492
Public, total...do....	1,581	1,649	1,411	r1,611	r1,643	1,706
Nonresidential buildings...do....	464	448	440	r468	r454	461
Military facilities...do....	116	141	127	r136	r127	123
Highway...do....	601	645	435	r574	r630	676
NEW CONSTRUCTION PUT IN PLACE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, AT ANNUAL RATES), TOTAL...do....	55,750	55,837	55,892	r57,615	r58,217	58,286
Private, total...do....	39,487	39,474	39,606	r40,737	r41,310	41,322
Residential (nonfarm)...do....	22,748	22,448	21,631	r22,680	r23,252	23,418
Nonresidential buildings, total...do....	9,938	10,061	10,628	r10,584	r10,608	10,629
Industrial...do....	2,839	2,880	2,849	2,750	2,672	2,588
Commercial...do....	3,976	4,033	4,515	4,510	4,578	4,646
Farm construction...do....	1,277	1,272	1,686	r1,839	r1,759	1,632
Public utility...do....	5,252	5,410	5,383	5,382	r5,457	5,421
Public, total...do....	16,263	16,363	16,286	r16,878	r16,907	16,964
Nonresidential buildings...do....	5,131	4,896	5,186	r5,229	r5,007	5,037
Military facilities...do....	1,340	1,444	1,507	r1,382	r1,475	1,259
Highway...do....	5,524	5,724	4,983	r5,527	r5,770	5,989
CONSTRUCTION COST INDEX: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE COMPOSITE...1947-49=100..	144	144	146	145	145	145
	June	July	April	May	June	July
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS IN 48 STATES (F.W. DODGE CORP.): TOTAL VALUATION...mil. of dol..	3,472	3,597	3,298	3,501	3,602	3,529
Building, total...do....	2,593	2,481	2,504	2,659	2,779	2,656
Highway concrete pavement contract awards: 1/ Total...thous. of sq. yd..	11,069	10,637	10,522	10,482	11,216	9,041
Airports...do....	1,284	1,526	202	110	582	938
Roads...do....	5,784	5,230	7,232	5,994	6,119	4,328
Streets and alleys...do....	4,000	3,881	3,088	4,378	4,514	3,774
FINANCE						
BANK DEBITS, TOTAL (344 CENTERS)...mil. of dol..	250,852	223,539	241,062	268,910	r*271,724	247,657
New York City...do....	99,809	86,063	101,151	111,463	r*113,228	100,591
6 other centers...do....	50,415	45,254	48,529	53,782	r*54,276	49,085
LIFE INSURANCE WRITTEN (NEW PAID-FOR INSURANCE): Value, estimated total...do....	6,325	6,144	6,297	6,595	6,255	6,125
Group and wholesale...do....	1,106	1,473	1,250	1,154	1,141	1,312
Industrial...do....	611	558	592	677	628	589
Ordinary...do....	4,608	4,113	4,455	4,764	4,486	4,224
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
ORGANIC CHEMICALS, PRODUCTION: Acetic acid (synthetic and natural)...thous. of lb..	65,844	71,165	58,005	r62,720	65,713	.....
Acetic anhydride...do....	94,200	88,703	82,147	98,232	100,764	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin)...do....	1,906	1,696	1,718	r1,841	1,969	.....
Creosote oil...thous. of gal..	7,953	7,357	6,864	8,457	8,897	.....
DDT...thous. of lb..	12,444	13,531	14,249	15,786	14,690	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%)...do....	7,705	7,648	10,983	6,796	9,536	.....
Ethylene glycol...do....	100,626	112,629	95,734	98,426	96,978	.....
Formaldehyde (37% HCHO)...do....	143,938	110,367	138,344	148,430	139,063	.....
Methanol: Natural...thous. of gal..	199	187	165	191	144	.....
Synthetic...do....	21,653	25,300	24,663	25,905	24,571	.....
Phthalic anhydride...thous. of lb..	31,989	30,612	34,707	r36,309	33,490	.....
Alcohol, ethyl: Production 2/...thous. of proof gal..	47,884	43,686	49,758	54,576	45,985	.....
Stocks, end of month, total 2/...do....	35,259	127,911	141,834	154,395	139,190	.....
Used for denaturation...do....	41,620	43,132	42,527	41,483	41,799	.....
Withdrawn tax-paid 2/...do....	706	3,993	4,681	5,271	5,635	.....
Alcohol, denatured: Production...thous. of wine gal..	22,409	23,154	22,917	22,326	22,500	.....
Consumption (withdrawals)...do....	22,094	23,611	22,771	21,409	23,068	.....
Stocks, end of month...do....	3,721	3,281	6,307	7,182	6,592	.....

r/ Revised. * Old basis. 1/ Data for May 1961 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks. 2/ Effective July 1960, amounts classified as "spirits" are included with ethyl alcohol instead of distilled spirits as formerly.

ITEM	1960		1961			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS - Continued						
SYNTHETIC PLASTICS AND RESIN MATERIALS, PRODUCTION:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes.....thous. of lb..	4,642	3,781	4,153	4,396	5,016	.....
Molding and extrusion materials.....do....	8,055	6,854	7,057	7,475	7,924	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins.....do....	43,752	30,830	45,138	49,661	50,742	.....
Polystyrene.....do....	74,407	72,308	79,456	85,897	86,564	.....
Urea and melamine resins.....do....	28,435	18,126	24,795	28,823	23,846	.....
Vinyl resins.....do....	93,688	83,926	97,541	104,464	104,414	.....
Alkyd resins.....do....	34,126	28,260	30,634	33,569	33,699	.....
Rosin modifications.....do....	11,460	10,060	8,950	9,045	9,952	.....
Polyester resins.....do....	13,861	9,865	13,585	15,158	12,959	.....
Polyethylene resins.....do....	102,264	103,695	124,859	128,955	132,789	.....
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS						
DISTILLED SPIRITS (TOTAL):						
Production 1/.....thous. of tax gal..	22,164	9,126	14,443	15,603	15,789	.....
Taxable withdrawals 1/.....do....	14,718	7,644	9,339	10,240	11,307	.....
Stocks, end of month 1/.....do....	931,509	835,782	856,230	859,477	861,575	.....
Whisky:						
Production.....do....	12,934	6,874	11,565	12,352	11,924	.....
Taxable withdrawals.....do....	6,519	5,059	6,381	6,779	7,313	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	813,720	814,039	832,287	835,974	838,410	.....
Rectified spirits and wines, prod., total, thous. of proof gal..	7,373	5,556	6,431	6,983	7,775	.....
Whisky.....do....	5,601	4,382	4,796	5,199	5,866	.....
Wines and distilling materials:						
Effervescent wines:						
Production.....thous. of wine gal..	507	217	355	334	526	.....
Taxable withdrawals.....do....	284	144	218	317	284	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	2,712	2,774	2,753	2,717	2,922	.....
Still wines:						
Production.....do....	2,067	1,284	2,199	1,979	1,931	.....
Taxable withdrawals.....do....	12,039	9,044	11,855	12,467	13,413	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	142,575	132,309	164,933	156,424	140,683	.....
Distilling materials produced at wineries.....do....	4,789	2,366	497	1,139	914	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Barrels and drums, steel, heavy types (for sale):						
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....thousands..	1,702	1,681	1,623	1,450	1,553	.....
Shipments.....do....	1,986	1,762	1,797	1,959	1,968	.....
Fabricated structural steel:						
Orders, new (net).....thous. of short tons..	300	302	309	392	298	456
Shipments.....do....	374	339	319	365	361	287
Backlog, end of month.....do....	2,507	2,490	2,378	2,458	2,415	2,517
Aluminum shipments:						
Mill products and pig and ingot (net).....mil. of lb..	412.4	355.5	361.2	r425.0	424.1	.....
Mill products, total.....do....	278.4	253.1	268.6	r295.3	304.4	.....
Plate and sheet.....do....	150.4	143.0	143.2	r155.7	159.2	.....
Castings.....do....	60.1	45.7	60.3	r63.3	64.4	.....
Furnaces, industrial, new orders, net:						
Electric processing.....mil. of dol..	1.1	1.5	.7	1.4	1.2	1.4
Fuel-fired (except for hot rolling steel).....do....	1.0	1.2	.3	6.1	3.5	1.3

r/ Revised. 1/ See note 2 for p. 3.

USCOMM-DC-5061

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